# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(71)Applicant: ZEXEL VALEO CLIMATE CONTROL

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(72)Inventor: HACHIMAN KENSHO

# (54) DIAL SWITCH DEVICE

## (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a dial switch device, which has an improved freedom degree of design and also a reduced cost.

SOLUTION: A length of a contacted side corresponding to a central angle between the respective indicator switches uniformly set to a dial-rotating portion is set equal to a length of an outer peripheral portion of a driving portion corresponding to a central angle between contacts of a rotating switch portion. The respective set indication positions of the dial-rotating portion are made to correspond to the respective contact positions of the rotating switch portion, so that the dial-rotating portion is improved with respect to a freedom degree of design at the plural indication positions thereof. Further, the contacted side may also be formed of plural circular arc-shaped portions having a different diameter.

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### **CLAIMS**

# [Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] It has the contact side face formed in the shape of radii while having two or more locations equally set as the hoop direction by the predetermined central angle. The dial rotation section rotatable to said hoop direction, The mechanical component which has the periphery section which touches said contact side face, corresponds with rotation of said dial rotation section, and rotates, It has two or more contacts equally arranged in the hoop direction by the driving shaft and said predetermined central angle which are fixed to the medial axis of this mechanical component, and different central angle. The die length of said contact side face corresponding to [ consist of the rotary-switch section which short-circuits the sequential aforementioned contact with rotation of said mechanical component, and ] each central angle of said dial rotation section, The dial-switch device characterized by being set up equally to the die length of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section.

[Claim 2] Said contact side face is a dial-switch device according to claim 1 characterized by being formed in the periphery side of said dial rotation section.

[Claim 3] Said contact side face is a dial-switch device according to claim 1 characterized by being formed in the inner circumference side of said dial rotation section.

[Claim 4] The number of teeth of the gearing of said contact side face corresponding to [ the gearing formed in the predetermined pitch is prepared in the contact side face of said dial rotation section and the periphery section of said mechanical component, and ] each central angle of said dial rotation section and the number of teeth of the gearing of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section are a dial-switch device according to claim 1, 2, or 3 characterized by the equal thing. [Claim 5] The contact side face of said dial rotation section is the dial-switch device of any one publication of claim 1-4 characterized by consisting of two or more radii from which a path differs.

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[Claim 1] It has the contact side face formed in the shape of radii while having two or more locations equally set as the hoop direction by the predetermined central angle. The dial rotation section rotatable to said hoop direction, The mechanical component which has the periphery section which touches said contact side face, corresponds with rotation of said dial rotation section, and rotates, It has two or more contacts equally arranged in the hoop direction by the driving shaft and said predetermined central angle which are fixed to the medial axis of this mechanical component, and different central angle. The die length of said contact side face corresponding to [ consist of the rotary-switch section which short-circuits the sequential aforementioned contact with rotation of said mechanical component, and ] each central angle of said dial rotation section, The dial-switch device characterized by being set up equally to the die length of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section.

[Claim 2] Said contact side face is a dial-switch device according to claim 1 characterized by being formed in the periphery side of said dial rotation section.

[Claim 3] Said contact side face is a dial-switch device according to claim 1 characterized by being formed in the inner circumference side of said dial rotation section.

[Claim 4] The number of teeth of the gearing of said contact side face corresponding to [ the gearing formed in the predetermined pitch is prepared in the contact side face of said dial rotation section and the periphery section of said mechanical component, and ] each central angle of said dial rotation section and the number of teeth of the gearing of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section are a dial-switch device according to claim 1, 2, or 3 characterized by the equal thing. [Claim 5] The contact side face of said dial rotation section is the dial-switch device of any one publication of claim 1-4 characterized by consisting of two or more radii from which a path differs.

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## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[The technical field to which invention belongs] The location which this invention is the dial-switch device in which it is used for the control panel for setting up / changing control of the air conditioner carried in a car, and was set as the hoop direction at the predetermined spacing corresponds to two or more control modes, and is related with the dial-switch device in which the control mode can be set up by doubling a dial with that location. [0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] As a conventional dial-switch device, the dial switch indicated by JP,9-66725,A has some which rotation of a knob is delivered to the revolving shaft of a direct variable resistor.

[0003] Moreover, a change-over include angle is set up at the good include angle of 45 degrees, 36 degrees, 30 degrees, 22 or 5 degrees, 20 degrees, 15 degrees, 11.25 degrees, and 9 degrees, and, as for the rotating type digital switch by which current marketing is carried out the number of contacts becomes eight pieces, ten pieces, 12 pieces, 16 pieces, 18 pieces, 24 pieces, 32 pieces, and 40 pieces, respectively [0004]

[The technical problem which invention will solve and to carry out] When it was necessary to design a display position for the control mode corresponding to the change-over include angle of each rotary switch when the cheap rotary switch marketed is used from the above point and a direct knob is formed in the revolving shaft of this switch, and a special display position was set up on a design, since it became a custom-made item, there was fault said that cost becomes high.

[0005] For this reason, this invention is to offer the dial-switch device aiming at reduction of cost while raising the degree of freedom of a design.
[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] This invention has the contact side face formed in the shape of radii while having two or more locations equally set as the hoop direction by the predetermined central angle. Therefore, the dial rotation section rotatable to said hoop direction, The mechanical component which has the periphery section which touches said contact side face, corresponds with rotation of said dial rotation section, and rotates, It has two or more contacts equally arranged in the hoop direction by the driving shaft and said predetermined central angle which are fixed to the medial axis of this mechanical component, and different central angle. The die length of said contact side face corresponding to [ consist of the rotary-switch section which short-circuits the sequential aforementioned contact with rotation of said mechanical component, and ] each central angle of said dial rotation section, It is in being set up equally to the die length of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section.

[0007] The die length of said contact side face corresponding to the central angle between each display position which was equally set as said dial rotation section by this according to this invention, Each display position where the die length of the periphery section of said mechanical

component corresponding to the central angle between the contacts of the rotary-switch section was set up equally, and the dial rotation section was set up, Since the rotary-switch section which has a suitable number of contacts can be used while making the location of each contact of the rotary-switch section correspond and raising the design degree of freedom of two or more display positions of said dial rotation section, the above-mentioned technical problem can be attained.

[0008] Moreover, although it is desirable to form said contact side face in the periphery side of said dial rotation section, you may make it form in the inner circumference side of said dial rotation section. The degree of freedom of a design can be improved by this.

[0009] Moreover, the die length of said contact side face corresponding to each central angle (theta) of said dial rotation section, Setting up equally the die length of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle (alpha) of said rotary—switch section Since it is setting up equally to the inverse number (alpha/theta) of the ratio (theta/alpha) of the central angle of the dial rotation section, and the central angle of the rotary—switch section the ratio (R/r) of the radius (R) of the contact side face of the dial rotation section, and the radius (r) of the periphery section, When the central angle (alpha) of the rotary—switch section is the value of immobilization, the setting location of said dial rotation section can be made equivalent to the contact location of the rotary—switch section by making the radius R of said contact side face correspond to the setting location of the dial rotation section, and changing it.

[0010] Moreover, the gearing formed in the predetermined pitch is prepared in the contact side face of said dial rotation section, and the periphery section of said mechanical component, and the equal thing of the number of teeth of the gearing of said contact side face corresponding to each central angle of said dial rotation section and the number of teeth of the gearing of the periphery section of said mechanical component corresponding to each central angle of said rotary-switch section is desirable.

[0011] Although the elastic member which consists of the natural rubber which has predetermined friction, synthetic rubber, synthetic resin, etc. is allotted to the contact side face of the dial rotation section, and the periphery section of a mechanical component and you may make it make them rotate a mechanical component by rotation of the dial rotation section When the skid by reduction etc. is taken into consideration to deformation of said elastic member or frictional force, the gearing of a predetermined pitch can be prepared in a contact side face and the periphery section, and the rotation range of the dial rotation section can be certainly transmitted to the rotary-switch section by making it mesh each.

[0012] Moreover, a gearing's number of teeth formed in the circular part of the contact side face corresponding to the central angle between the setting locations of said dial rotation section when a gearing is used, Since it must become equal to a gearing's number of teeth formed in the part of the shape of radii of the periphery section corresponding to the central angle between the contacts of said rotary-switch section The ratio (Ga/Gb) of the number of teeth (Ga) the gearing's [ which is formed in a contact side face ] and a gearing's number of teeth (Gb) formed in the periphery section By setting up equally to the inverse number (alpha/theta) of the ratio (theta/alpha) of each central angle mentioned above, the setting location of said dial rotation section can be made equivalent to the contact location of the rotary-switch section.

[0013] Moreover, as for the contact side face of said dial rotation section, it is desirable to consist of two or more radii from which a path differs. When forming a control panel according to two or more dial-switch devices by forming the dial rotation section which has the contact side face which consists of two or more radii by this, even if it forms the setting location of the dial rotation section in two or more types, correspondence becomes possible by the one dial rotation section.

[0014]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, a drawing explains the gestalt of implementation of this invention.

[0015] The dial-switch device 2 concerning the gestalt of operation of the invention in this application For example, it is what constitutes some control panels 1 for controlling the air

conditioner for cars. The cylindrical extension section 6 formed so that it might project from the front case 3 in a case 4 while a printed circuit board 5 fixes, as shown in drawing 1 and drawing 2 R> 2. The interior member 7 of a cylinder which is inscribed in this cylindrical extension section 6, and is fixed to said printed circuit board 5, The rotatable knob applied part 9 with which said cylindrical extension section 6 is equipped free [rotation], and the dial rotation section 8 which fixes to this rotatable knob applied part 9, The contact side face 15 formed in the lower part of said rotatable knob applied part 9 (the henceforth, 1st gearing section), It is constituted by the mechanical component (the henceforth, 2nd gearing section) 13 which gears with this 1st gearing section 15, and the rotary-switch section (henceforth, digital rotary switch) 14 which fixes to the revolving shaft of this 2nd gearing section 13. In addition, in the gestalt of this 1st operation, as shown in drawing 3, said 1st gearing section 15 was formed in the lower periphery side face of said rotatable knob applied part 9, and said 2nd gearing section 13 was formed in the outside of said rotatable knob applied part 9, and has geared in said 1st gearing section 15. [0016] It is set up at intervals of theta (30 degrees), two or more locations N1, N2, N3, N4, N5, and N6 set as the hoop direction of the dial rotation section 8 in the above configuration as drawing 4 (a) showed -- a central angle -- the contacts S1, S2, and S3 of said digital rotary switch 14 corresponding to this, S4, and S5 and S6 show by drawing 4 (b) -- as -- a central angle, supposing it is set up at intervals of alpha (60 degrees) the central angle between display positions N [ N1 and ] 2 -- the die length L1 of the radii of the periphery of the 1st gearing section 15 corresponding to theta, and the central angle between the contact location S1 and S2 -- both can be made to correspond to the radii of the periphery of the 2nd gearing section 13 corresponding to alpha by making die length L2 equal

[0017] The rotation distance of the dial rotation section 8 and the rotation distance of the digital rotary switch 14 can be made to specifically correspond by setting up equally to the inverse number (alpha/theta) of the ratio (theta/alpha) of each central angle the ratio (R/r) of the radius R of the 1st gearing section 15, and the radius r of the 2nd gearing section 13.

[0018] Moreover, when a gearing's pitch formed in the 1st gearing section 15 and the 2nd gearing section 13 is set constant by this, the gear ratio (Ga/Gb) of the number of teeth Ga of the 1st gearing section 15 and the number of teeth Gb of the 2nd gearing section 13 also becomes equal to the inverse number (alpha/theta) of the ratio of said central angle.

[0019] The display of the control mode equally arranged from the above thing in the hoop direction of the dial rotation section 8, Vent blow-off mode and N3 For example, bilevel blow-off mode, [N1] [blow-off automatic setting mode and N2] When foot blow-off mode and N5 are displayed on differential-gear foot blow-off mode and N6 is displayed for N4 on differential-gear blow-off mode, When the location of the dial rotation section 8 is in N1, the contact S1 of the digital rotary switch 14 short-circuits. The contacts S2 and S3 of the digital rotary switch 14, S4, and S5 and S6 can be made to correspond to the dial rotation section 8 of N2, N3, N4, N5, and N6 to a location similarly now.

[0020] Moreover, as for <u>drawing 5</u>, the 1st gearing section 15 is formed in the periphery side face of said knob applied part 9. The gestalt of the 1st operation with which the 2nd gearing section 13 gears from an outside to this 1st gearing section 15 is shown. 1st gearing section 15A is formed in the inner circumference side face of said knob applied part 9, and <u>drawing 6</u> shows the gestalt of the 2nd operation with which 2nd gearing section 13A gears from the inside to this 1st gearing section 15A.

[0021] In the case of the dial-switch device 2 concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation Since the digital rotary switch 14 was formed in the exterior of the dial-switch device 2 Since many electrical parts, such as a push switch and light emitting diode, can be arranged on the interior of the dial-switch device 2, Many displays, switching, etc. can be set up in one dial-switch device 2, and since it can design freely as the dial setting display of the dial-switch device 2 was also mentioned above, the degree of freedom of a design of a switch improves.

[0022] Moreover, in the gestalt of said 2nd operation, since it can arrange the digital rotary switch 14 in the interior of the dial-switch device 2 when the inner circumference side face of said cylindrical extension section 6 will be equipped with said knob applied part 9 free [rotation] and it does not need to arrange many especially electrical parts on the interior of the dial-switch

device 2, it has the advantage that space-saving-ization can be attained.

[0023] The dial-switch device concerning the gestalt of the 3rd operation shown in drawing 7 and drawing 8 It is what constituted said 1st gearing section 15B by the semicircle arc which consists of two different paths. Gear ratio Gc/Gb at the time of meshing the 2nd gearing section 13 the major-diameter side of the 1st gearing section 15, as shown in drawing 7 Since it is set up more greatly than gear ratio Gd/Gb at the time of meshing the 2nd gearing section 13 the minor diameter side of the 1st gearing section 15, the rotation distance of the digital rotary switch 14 can be greatly set up to the rotation distance of the dial rotation section 8. In addition, Gc and Gd show a number of teeth when the gearing of the same pitch is formed in the perimeter to each path.

[0024] On the other hand, what is shown by <u>drawing 8</u> is what showed the case where the 2nd gearing section 13 was meshed the minor diameter side of the 1st gearing section 15, and can set up the rotation distance of the digital rotary switch 14 small to the rotation distance of the dial rotation section 8 in this case.

[0025] When two dial-switch devices 2 are used for a control panel 1 by this, By forming 1st gearing section 5B which has two paths corresponding to a ratio in each of spacing of a display position and spacing of the contact location of the digital rotary switch 14 which are set as the hoop direction of each dial rotation section 8 Since it can respond to two dial-switch devices with one component, components mark can be reduced.

[0026] The dial-switch device concerning the gestalt of the 4th operation shown in drawing 9 indicates 1st gearing section 15C which consists of three circular parts which have a path different, respectively. In addition, although each central angle theta1, theta2, and theta3 may be the same include angle (120 degrees), there may be at an include angle different if needed. By this, it can respond to three different display positions or the contact location of the digital rotary switch 14. In addition, germanium, Gf, and Gg show a number of teeth when perimeter formation of the gearing is carried out in each path.

[0027] The dial-switch device concerning the gestalt of the 5th operation shown in <u>drawing 10</u> possesses 1st gearing section 15D which consists of two circular parts from which a central angle differs while having two different paths mentioned above. Although the central angle theta 4 by the side of the major diameter of 1st gearing section 15D is formed with the gestalt of this operation smaller than the central angle theta 5 by the side of a minor diameter, the central angle theta 4 by the side of a major diameter may be formed more greatly than the central angle theta 5 by the side of a minor diameter. By this, it can respond to the display position of said dial rotation section 8 set as the required range.

[0028]

[Effect of the Invention] The central angle of the display position which is equally set as the hoop direction of the dial rotation section according to this invention as explained above, Since the path of the contact side face of the dial rotation section or the number of teeth, and the path or number of teeth of a mechanical component was set up corresponding to the ratio with the central angle of the contact of the rotary-switch section which consists of a digital rotary switch A cost cut can be attained while being able to raise the degree of freedom of a design of a dial-switch device, since the display position of the dial rotation section can be freely set up even if it uses a commercial digital rotary switch.

[0029] Moreover, since the digital rotary switch with which it can respond to two or more display positions in the one dial rotation section, and the numbers of contacts differ since the contact side face of said dial rotation section was formed with two or more radii which consist of a different path according to this invention can also be used, a cost cut can be attained while the degree of freedom of a design can be improved further.

JAPANESE [JP,2001-184966,A]

CLAIMS DETAILED DESCRIPTION TECHNICAL FIELD PRIOR ART EFFECT OF THE INVENTION TECHNICAL PROBLEM MEANS DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS DRAWINGS

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## **DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] the dial-switch device concerning the gestalt of operation of this invention was shown — it is an expanded sectional view a part.

[Drawing 2] It is the decomposition sectional view of the dial-switch device shown in drawing 1.

[Drawing 3] It is the explanatory view having shown the 1st gearing section concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation, and the 2nd gearing section.

[Drawing 4] (a) is the explanatory view having shown the display position of the dial rotation section, and (b) is the explanatory view having shown the contact location of a digital rotary switch.

[Drawing 5] It is the explanatory view having shown the location of the 1st gearing section and the 2nd gearing section and actuation concerning the gestalt of the 1st operation.

[Drawing 6] It is the explanatory view having shown the location of the 1st gearing section and the 2nd gearing section and actuation concerning the gestalt of the 2nd operation.

[Drawing 7] It is the explanatory view having shown the 1st engagement condition of the 1st gearing section and the 2nd gearing section concerning the gestalt of the 3rd operation.

[Drawing 8] It is the explanatory view having shown the 2nd engagement condition of the 1st gearing section and the 2nd gearing section concerning the gestalt of the 3rd operation.

[Drawing 9] It is the explanatory view having shown an example of the configuration of the 1st gearing section concerning the gestalt of the 4th operation.

[Drawing 10] It is the explanatory view having shown an example of the configuration of the 1st gearing section concerning the gestalt of the 5th operation.

[Description of Notations]

- 1 Control Panel
- 2 Dial-Switch Device
- 8 Dial Rotation Section
- 9 Rotatable Knob Applied Part
- 13 13A Mechanical component (the 2nd gearing section)
- 14 Rotary-Switch Section (Digital Rotary Switch)
- 15, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D Contact side face (the 1st gearing section)

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		<b>奋</b> 耸朗水	木明水 開水県の数5 OL (全 b 貝)	
(21)出願番号	特願平11-369065	(71)出願人	500309126	
			株式会社ゼクセルヴァレオクライメートコ	
(22)出願日	平成11年12月27日(1999.12.27)		ントロール	
			埼玉県大里郡江南町大字千代字東原39番地	
		(72)発明者	八幡 憲昭	
			埼玉県大里郡江南町大字千代字東原39番地 株式会社ゼクセル江南工場内	
		(74)代理人	100069073	
			弁理士 大貫 和保	

# (54) 【発明の名称】 ダイヤルスイッチ機構

### (57)【要約】

【課題】 設計の自由度を向上させると共にコストの低減を図ったダイヤルスイッチ機構を提供する。

【解決手段】 前記ダイヤル回動部に均等に設定されたそれぞれの表示位置の間の中心角に対応する前記当接側面の長さと、回転スイッチ部の接点間の中心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の長さとを等しく設定するようにし、ダイヤル回動部の設定されたそれぞれの表示位置と、回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの接点の位置とを対応させて、前記ダイヤル回動部の複数の表示位置の設計自由度を向上させる。さらに、前記当接側面を異なる径を有する複数の円弧状部分によって構成しても良い。

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### 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 周方向に所定の中心角で均等に設定された複数の位置を有すると共に円弧状に形成された当接側面を有し、前記周方向に回動可能なダイヤル回動部と、前記当接側面と接する外周部を有し、前記ダイヤル回動部の回動に伴って対応して回動する駆動部と、

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該駆動部の中心軸に固定される駆動軸及び前記所定の中心角と異なる中心角で周方向に均等に配設された複数の接点を有し、前記駆動部の回動に伴って順次前記接点を短絡させる回転スイッチ部とからなり、

前記ダイヤル回動部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記 当接側面の長さと、前記回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの中 心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の長さとは等しく設 定されていることを特徴とするダイヤルスイッチ機構。

【請求項2】 前記当接側面は、前記ダイヤル回動部の外周側に形成されることを特徴とする請求項1記載のダイヤルスイッチ機構。

【請求項3】 前記当接側面は、前記ダイヤル回動部の内周側に形成されることを特徴とする請求項1記載のダイヤルスイッチ機構。

【請求項4】 前記ダイヤル回動部の当接側面及び前記 駆動部の外周部には、所定のピッチで形成された歯車が 設けられ、

前記ダイヤル回動部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記 当接側面の歯車の歯数と、前記回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の歯車の歯数 とは等しいことを特徴とする請求項1,2又は3記載の ダイヤルスイッチ機構。

【請求項5】 前記ダイヤル回動部の当接側面は、径の 異なる複数の円弧からなることを特徴とする請求項1~ 30 4のいずれか一つに記載のダイヤルスイッチ機構。

# 【発明の詳細な説明】

#### [0001]

【発明が属する技術分野】この発明は、例えば車両に搭載される空調装置の制御を設定/変更するための操作パネルに用いられるダイヤルスイッチ機構で、周方向に所定の間隔で設定された位置が、複数の制御モードに対応し、ダイヤルをその位置に合わせることで制御モードを設定できるようなダイヤルスイッチ機構に関する。

### [0002]

【従来の技術】従来のダイヤルスイッチ機構として、例えば特開平9-66725号公報に開示されるダイヤルスイッチは、ツマミの回動が直接可変抵抗器の回転軸に伝達されるようになっているものがある。

【0003】また、現在市販されている回転式デジタルスイッチは、切換角度が、45°、36°、30°、22,5°、20°、15°、11.25°、9°ときりの良い角度で設定され、それぞれ接点数が8個、10個、12個、16個、18個、24個、32個、40個となるものである。

### [0004]

【発明が解決しようする課題】以上の点から、市販されている安価な回転式スイッチを用いる場合、このスイッチの回転軸に直接ツマミを設けた場合、それぞれの回転式スイッチの切換角度に対応して、制御モードを表示位置を設計する必要があり、デザイン上特殊な表示位置を設定した場合、特注品となることから、コストが高くなると言う不具合があった。

【0005】このため、この発明は、設計の自由度を向上させると共にコストの低減を図ったダイヤルスイッチ機構を提供することにある。

## [0006]

【課題を解決するための手段】したがって、この発明は、周方向に所定の中心角で均等に設定された複数の位置を有すると共に円弧状に形成された当接側面を有し、前記周方向に回動可能なダイヤル回動部と、前記当接側面と接する外周部を有し、前記ダイヤル回動部の回動に伴って対応して回動する駆動部と、該駆動部の中心軸に固定される駆動軸及び前記所定の中心角と異なる中心角で周方向に均等に配設された複数の接点を有し、前記駆動部の回動に伴って順次前記接点を短絡させる回転スイッチ部とからなり、前記ダイヤル回動部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記当接側面の長さと、前記回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の長さとは等しく設定されていることにある。

【0007】これによって、この発明によれば、前記ダイヤル回動部に均等に設定されたそれぞれの表示位置の間の中心角に対応する前記当接側面の長さと、回転スイッチ部の接点間の中心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の長さとを等しく設定するようにし、ダイヤル回動部の設定されたそれぞれの表示位置と、回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの接点の位置とを対応させて、前記ダイヤル回動部の複数の表示位置の設計自由度を向上させると共に、適当な数の接点を有する回転スイッチ部を用いることができるので、上記課題を達成することができるものである。

【0008】また、前記当接側面を、前記ダイヤル回動部の外周側に形成することが望ましいが、前記ダイヤル回動部の内周側に形成するようにしても良いものである。これによって、設計の自由度を向上できる。

【0009】また、前記ダイヤル回動部のそれぞれの中心角( $\theta$ )に対応する前記当接側面の長さと、前記回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの中心角( $\alpha$ )に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の長さとを等しく設定するということは、ダイヤル回動部の当接側面の半径(R)と外周部の半径(r)の比(R/r)を、ダイヤル回動部の中心角と回転スイッチ部の中心角の比( $\theta/\alpha$ )の逆数( $\alpha/\theta$ )と等しく設定することであるため、回転スイッチ部の中心角( $\alpha$ )が固定の値である場合、前記当接側面の半径Rをダイヤル回動部の設定位置に対応させて変化させる

ことによって、前記ダイヤル回動部の設定位置を回転ス イッチ部の接点位置に対応させることができるものであ る。

【0010】また、前記ダイヤル回動部の当接側面及び前記駆動部の外周部には、所定のピッチで形成された歯車が設けられ、前記ダイヤル回動部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記当接側面の歯車の歯数と、前記回転スイッチ部のそれぞれの中心角に対応する前記駆動部の外周部の歯車の歯数とは等しいことが望ましい。

【0011】ダイヤル回動部の当接側面及び駆動部の外 10 周部に、所定の摩擦を有する天然ゴム、合成ゴム、合成樹脂等からなる弾性部材を配して、ダイヤル回動部の回動によって駆動部を回動させるようにしても良いものであるが、前記弾性部材の変形や摩擦力に低減によるすべり等を考慮した場合、当接側面及び外周部に所定のピッチの歯車を設け、お互いに噛合させるようにすることによってダイヤル回動部の回動範囲を確実に回転スイッチ部に伝達することができるものである。

【0012】また、歯車を用いた場合、前記ダイヤル回動部の設定位置の間の中心角に対応する当接側面の円弧 20 状部分に形成される歯車の歯数と、前記回転スイッチ部の接点の間の中心角に対応する外周部の円弧状の部分に形成される歯車の歯数とは等しくならなければならないので、当接側面に形成される歯車の歯数(Ga)と外周部に形成される歯車の歯数(Gb)の比(Ga/Gb)は、前述したそれぞれの中心角の比( $\theta/\alpha$ )の逆数( $\alpha/\theta$ )に等しく設定することによって、前記ダイヤル回動部の設定位置を回転スイッチ部の接点位置に対応させることができるものである。

【0013】また、前記ダイヤル回動部の当接側面は、径の異なる複数の円弧からなることが望ましい。これによって、複数の円弧からなる当接側面を有するダイヤル回動部を形成することにより、例えば、複数のダイヤルスイッチ機構によって操作パネルを形成する場合に、ダイヤル回動部の設定位置を複数のタイプに形成しても、一つのダイヤル回動部によって対応可能となるものである。

# [0014]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、この発明の実施の形態について図面により説明する。

【0015】本願発明の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構2は、例えば車両用空調装置の制御を行なうための操作パネル1の一部を構成するもので、図1及び図2に示すように、プリント基板5が固着される中ケース4に表ケース3から突出するように形成された円筒状延出部6と、この円筒状延出部6に内接して前記プリント基板5に固定される円筒内部部材7と、前記円筒状延出部6に回動自在に装着される回転ノブ装着部9と、この回転ノブ装着部9に固着されるダイヤル回動部8と、前記回転ノブ装着部9の下部に形成された当接側面(以

下、第1歯車部)15と、この第1歯車部15と噛合する駆動部(以下、第2歯車部)13と、この第2歯車部 13の回転軸に固着される回転スイッチ部(以下、デジタル回転スイッチ)14とによって構成される。尚、この第1の実施の形態においては、図3に示すように、前記第1歯車部15は前記回転ノブ装着部9の下部外周側面に形成され、前記第2歯車部13は前記回転ノブ装着部9の外側に設けられて前記第1歯車部15に噛合している。

【0016】以上の構成において、例えば、図4(a)で示すようにダイヤル回動部8の周方向に設定された複数の位置N1, N2, N3, N4, N5, N6が中心角 $\theta$ (30°)間隔で設定され、これに対応する前記デジタル回転スイッチ14の接点S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6が、図4(b)で示すように、中心角 $\alpha$ (60°)間隔で設定されているとすると、表示位置N1, N2間の中心角 $\theta$ に対応する第1の歯車部15の外周の円弧の長さL1と、接点位置S1, S2間の中心角 $\alpha$ に対応する第2の歯車部13の外周の円弧に長さL2とを等しくすることによって両者を対応させることができるものである。

【0017】具体的には、第1歯車部15の半径Rと第2歯車部13の半径rとの比(R/r)を、それぞれの中心角の比( $\theta$ / $\alpha$ )の逆数( $\alpha$ / $\theta$ )と等しく設定することによって、ダイヤル回動部8の回動距離とデジタル回転スイッチ14の回動距離とを対応させることができるものである。

【0018】また、これによって、第1歯車部15と第2歯車部13に形成される歯車のピッチを一定とした場合、第1歯車部15の歯数Gaと第2歯車部13の歯数Gbとのギア比(Ga/Gb)も、前記中心角の比の逆数  $(\alpha/\theta)$  と等しくなるものである。

【0019】以上のことから、ダイヤル回動部8の周方向に均等に配置された制御モードの表示、例えばN1が吹出自動設定モード、N2がベント吹出モード、N3がバイレベル吹出モード、N4がフット吹出モード、N5がデフフット吹出モード、N6がデフ吹出モードに表示されている場合、ダイヤル回動部8の位置がN1にある場合にはデジタル回転スイッチ14の接点S1が短絡され、同様にN2、N3、N4、N5、N6の各々のダイヤル回動部8に位置に対してデジタル回転スイッチ14の接点S2、S3、S4、S5、S6を対応させることができるようになるものである。

【0020】また、図5は、第1歯車部15が前記ノブ装着部9の外周側面に形成され、この第1歯車部15に対して第2歯車部13が外側から噛合する第1の実施の形態を示したものであり、図6は第1の歯車部15Aが前記ノブ装着部9の内周側面に形成され、この第1歯車部15Aに対して第2歯車部13Aが内側から噛合する第2の実施の形態を示したものである。

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【0021】第1の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構2の場合には、デジタル回転スイッチ14をダイヤルスイッチ機構2の外部に設けるようにしたので、ダイヤルスイッチ機構2の内部にプッシュスイッチや発光ダイオード等の電気部品を多く配することができるため、一つのダイヤルスイッチ機構2において表示やスイッチ動作等を多く設定することができ、ダイヤルスイッチ機構2のダイヤル設定表示も上述したように自由に設計できるので、スイッチの設計の自由度が向上する。

【0022】また、前記第2の実施の形態においては、前記ノブ装着部9は、前記円筒状延出部6の内周側面に回動自在に装着されることとなるもので、特にダイヤルスイッチ機構2の内部に多くの電気部品は配する必要がない場合には、デジタル回転スイッチ14をダイヤルスイッチ機構2の内部に配設することができるので、省スペース化を達成できるという利点を有する。

【0023】図7および図8に示す第3の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構は、前記第1歯車部15Bを2つの異なる径からなる半円弧により構成したもので、図7に示すように第1歯車部15の大径側と第2歯車部13とを噛合させた場合のギア比Gc/Gbは、第1の歯車部15の小径側と第2歯車部13とを噛合させた場合のギア比Gd/Gbよりも大きく設定されるので、ダイヤル回動部8の回動距離に対してデジタル回転スイッチ14の回動距離を大きく設定できる。尚、Gc, Gdは、それぞれの径に対して同一ピッチの歯車が全周に形成された場合の歯数を示すものである。

【0024】これに対して、図8で示すものは、第1歯車部15の小径側と第2歯車部13とを噛合させた場合を示したもので、この場合は、ダイヤル回動部8の回動距離に対してデジタル回転スイッチ14の回動距離を小さく設定できる。

【0025】これによって、操作パネル1に、2つのダイヤルスイッチ機構2が用いられる場合、それぞれのダイヤル回動部8の周方向に設定される表示位置の間隔とデジタル回転スイッチ14の接点位置の間隔とのそれぞれに比に対応する2つの径を有する第1歯車部5Bを形成することによって、一つの部品によって2つのダイヤルスイッチ機構に対応できるので、部品点数を減らすことができる。

【0026】図9に示す第4の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構は、それぞれ異なる径を有する3つの円弧状部分からなる第1歯車部15Cを開示する。尚、それぞれの中心角 $\theta1$ ,  $\theta2$ ,  $\theta3$ は、同一角度(120°)であっても良いが、必要に応じて異なる角度で有っても良いものである。これによって、3つの異なる表示位置、又はデジタル回転スイッチ14の接点位置に対応することができる。尚、Ge, Gf, Ggは、それぞれの径において歯車が全周形成された場合の歯数を示したものである。

【0027】図10に示す第5の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構は、前述した2つの異なる径を有すると共に中心角の異なる2つの円弧状部分からなる第1歯車部15Dを具備するようにしたものである。この実施の形態では、第1歯車部15Dの大径側の中心角の4が小径側の中心角の5より小さく形成されているが、大径側の中心角の4を小径側の中心角の5より大きく形成しても良いものである。これによって、必要な範囲に設定された前記ダイヤル回動部8の表示位置に対応できるも10のである。

## [0028]

【発明の効果】以上説明したように、この発明によれば、ダイヤル回動部の周方向に均等に設定される表示位置の中心角と、デジタル回転スイッチからなる回転スイッチ部の接点の中心角との比に対応して、ダイヤル回動部の当接側面の径又は歯数と、駆動部の径又は歯数とを設定するようにしたので、市販のデジタル回転スイッチを用いてもダイヤル回動部の表示位置を自由に設定できるので、ダイヤルスイッチ機構の設計の自由度を向上させることができると共に、コストダウンを達成できる。

【0029】また、この発明によれば、前記ダイヤル回動部の当接側面を、異なる径からなる複数の円弧によって形成するようにしたので、一つのダイヤル回動部で複数の表示位置に対応することができ、また接点数の異なるデジタル回転スイッチを用いることもできるので、設計の自由度をさらに向上できると同時にコストダウンを達成できるものである。

### 【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の実施の形態に係るダイヤルスイッチ機構を示した一部拡大断面図である。

【図2】図1に示すダイヤルスイッチ機構の分解断面図である。

【図3】第1の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部と第2歯車部を示した説明図である。

【図4】(a)はダイヤル回動部の表示位置を示した説明図であり、(b)はデジタル回転スイッチの接点位置を示した説明図である。

【図5】第1の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部と第2歯車部の位置及び動作を示した説明図である。

40 【図6】第2の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部と第2歯車 部の位置及び動作を示した説明図である。

【図7】第3の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部と第2歯車部の第1の噛合状態を示した説明図である。

【図8】第3の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部と第2歯車部の第2の噛合状態を示した説明図である。

【図9】第4の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部の形状の一例を示した説明図である。

【図10】第5の実施の形態に係る第1歯車部の形状の一例を示した説明図である。

# 50 【符号の説明】

8

- 1 操作パネル
- 2 ダイヤルスイッチ機構
- 8 ダイヤル回動部
- 9 回転ノブ装着部

\*13,13A 駆動部(第2歯車部)

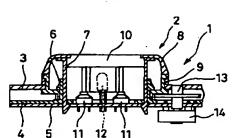
14 回転スイッチ部 (デジタル回転スイッチ)

15, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D 当接側面(第

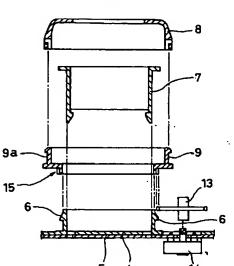
\* 1歯車部)

【図1】

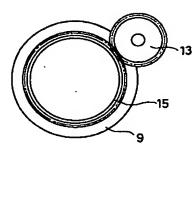
7





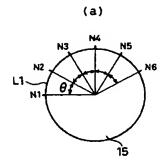


【図3】

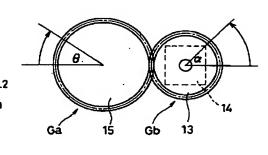


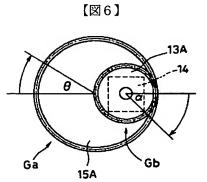
【図4】

(b)

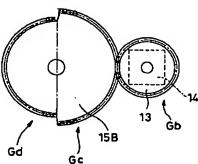


【図5】

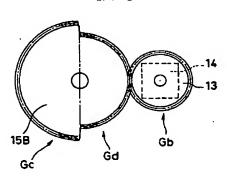




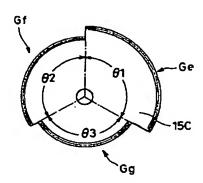
【図7】



【図8】







[図10]

